

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 are all the claims pending in the application. Claim 5 has been newly added herewith.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3 and 4

Claims 1, 3 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gipe (U.S. Patent No. 4,031,614) in view of Applicant's Art (APA). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 recites inserting an electric wire into the insertion hole of a connecting member and then compressing the connecting member to caulk an inserted portion of the wire. The Examiner asserts that Gipe Figs. 1 and 2 disclose the claimed invention, but nothing in these figures discloses inserting and compressing as claimed. In fact, Gipe does not discuss the particular method of fitting the electric wire 29 to the alleged connecting member 13.

Since the Gipe figures and the text provide no particulars regarding any possible inserting or compressing, it cannot teach inserting and compressing as claimed. Although some deformation of connecting member 13 is required, the figures allow several possibilities which do not meet claim 1. For example it is unclear whether the member 13 is formed to create a hole before or after the electric wire is placed on the connecting member. If the connecting member 13 is not deformed to create a hole before the electric wire 29 is placed on the member 13, then Gipe electric wire would not be inserted into an insertion hole of the connecting member 13 as claimed. Alternatively, if the connecting member 13 is first deformed to create a hole in which to insert electric wire 29, there is no indication of further compressing. Particularly, Gipe makes

no mention of compressing the connecting member radially inwardly so as to caulk an inserted portion of an electric wire as claimed. Furthermore, Gipe does not teach anything regarding caulking *uniformly*.

The Examiner cites the APA only for applying an ultrasonic wave. Even if it were appropriate to modify Gipe with the APA, the APA would not correct the above-noted deficiencies of Gipe. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over the combined teachings and suggestions of Gipe and the APA at least because the combination of references fails to teach inserting and compressing as claimed.

Claims 3 and 4 depend from claim 1 and are therefore allowable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Claim 2

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gipe in view of the APA and further in view of Hsieh (U.S. Patent No. 4,998,344). Claim 2 depends from claim 1. The Examiner cites Hsieh only as showing rotary swagging. Even if it were appropriate to modify Gipe with Hsieh as suggested by the Examiner, Hsieh still would not correct the above-noted deficiencies of Gipe and the APA with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, the combined teachings and suggestions of Gipe, the APA and Hsieh fail to teach or suggest each and every feature of claim 1 and, therefore, certainly fail to teach or suggest every feature of dependent claim 2.

New Claim

Claim 5 has been newly added herewith in order to provide a more varied scope of protection. Claim 5 depends from claim 1 and is therefore allowable at least because of its dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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